

**To:** Ostrander, David[Ostrander.David@epa.gov]  
**From:** Card, Joan  
**Sent:** Mon 9/28/2015 1:46:45 PM  
**Subject:** FW: new inquiry re: Gold King Mine Winter Discharge Treatment

David, the statement we gave to media on Friday answers some of this, but can you help fill in the blanks. I imagine we'll need to be sensitive to procurement rules and CBI. Thanks Joan

**From:** Levine, Carolyn  
**Sent:** Friday, September 25, 2015 3:23 PM  
**To:** Russo, Rebecca; Card, Joan  
**Subject:** new inquiry re: Gold King Mine Winter Discharge Treatment

Hi Rebecca and Joan,

I have a few questions from Senate EPW majority staff regarding the contractor's selection of the subcontractor and if EPA had any role in developing the SOW, who and how was the treatment system selected, is there any EPA correspondence to the contractor/subcontractor re: next steps.

Also, they would like any updated figure on the amount expended so far and how much the treatment plant alters the last long-term estimate of \$23m response costs, or if the contractor/sub costs are not included in EPA's response costs.

Staff would like a response as soon as we have it, next week if possible. Let me know if you can help facilitate a response to this. I can circulate a draft response at HQ.

Thanks,

Carolyn

\*\*\* This email and any attachments are UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY (U//FOUO) \*\*\*

Carolyn Levine

Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations

U.S. EPA

(202) 564-1859

[levine.carolyn@epa.gov](mailto:levine.carolyn@epa.gov)

**From:** Russo, Rebecca  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 23, 2015 2:39 PM  
**To:** Levine, Carolyn; Distefano, Nichole  
**Cc:** McGrath, Shaun; StClair, Christie  
**Subject:** FW: Gold King Mine Winter Discharge Treatment

Carolyn's HQ Congressional contacts have been notified.

'Anna.Oak@mail.house.gov'; 'Jon.Pawlow@mail.house.gov'; 'Tina.Richards@mail.house.gov';  
'Peter.Spencer@mail.house.gov'; 'David.McCarthy@mail.house.gov';  
'jackie.cohen@mail.house.gov'; 'Pamitha.Weerasinghe@mail.house.gov';  
'Doug.Pasternak@mail.house.gov'; 'Geoff.Bowman@mail.house.gov';  
'Elizabeth.Fox@mail.house.gov'; 'Ryan.Seiger@mail.house.gov';  
'Michael.Brain@mail.house.gov'; 'joe.sheehy@mail.house.gov';  
'Lamar.Echols@mail.house.gov'; 'Drew.Collatie@mail.house.gov'; 'tim.doyle@mail.house.gov';  
'Mark.Marin@mail.house.gov'; 'Zachary.Kurz@mail.house.gov';  
'Joseph.Brazauskas@mail.house.gov'; 'Richard.Yamada@mail.house.gov';  
'justin.clayton@mail.house.gov'; 'carrie.palmer@mail.house.gov';  
'taylor.jordan@mail.house.gov'; 'marcy.gallo@mail.house.gov';  
'adam.rosenberg@mail.house.gov'; 'dan.pearson@mail.house.gov';  
'Ryan\_Jackson@inhouse.senate.gov'; 'Susan\_Bodine@epw.senate.gov';  
'Byron\_Brown@epw.senate.gov'; 'bettina\_poirier@epw.senate.gov';  
'Thomas\_Fox@epw.senate.gov'; 'Jason\_Albritton@epw.senate.gov';  
'Morgan\_Gray@markey.senate.gov'; 'michal\_freedhoff@markey.senate.gov';  
'Christos\_Tsiamis@markey.senate.gov'; 'melissa.beaumont@mail.house.gov';  
'William.McGrath@mail.house.gov'; 'Ryan.Hambleton@mail.house.gov';  
'Brandon\_Ashley@indian.senate.gov'; 'Natasha\_John@indian.senate.gov';  
'Steve.Feldgus@mail.house.gov'; 'rob.gordon@mail.house.gov';  
'Vic.Edgerton@mail.house.gov'; 'Emily.Lande@mail.house.gov'; 'Beverly.Britton-Fraser@mail.house.gov'; 'Krista.Boyd@mail.house.gov'; 'Ashley.Moss@mail.house.gov';  
'stephenne\_harding@ios.doi.gov'

Rebecca A. Russo

Region 8 Congressional and Intergovernmental Liaison

Office: 303-312-6757

Cell: 303-204-1930

**From:** Russo, Rebecca

**Sent:** Wednesday, September 23, 2015 12:36 PM

**Subject:** Gold King Mine Winter Discharge Treatment

Hi all,

Please find below a press release that will be going out today regarding the Gold King Mine water treatment system for winter 2015-16.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Rebecca

Rebecca A. Russo

Region 8 Congressional and Intergovernmental Liaison

Office: 303-312-6757

Cell: 303-204-1930

**CONTACT:**

[Press@epa.gov](mailto:Press@epa.gov)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:  
Sept. 23, 2015

## **EPA Announces Gold King Mine Water Treatment System for Winter 2015-16**

(Washington, DC) -- The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced today that a portable, temporary treatment system will be located in Gladstone, CO (elevation 10,500ft) to continue treating water discharged from the Gold King Mine during winter 2015-16. This system will replace temporary settling ponds constructed by the EPA in August 2015.

The transition to the portable treatment system is necessary as local winter temperatures can reach -20F, making it unsafe to manually treat water at the mine site. The schedule calls for the treatment system to be operational by Oct. 14, 2015. EPA's contractor, ER LLC, awarded a subcontract Sept. 22, 2015 to Alexco Environmental Group (US) Inc. to complete the work.

This system will treat the approximately 550 gallons per minute (gpm) of water that continue to flow from the mine, including the discharges related to ongoing work in the mine to stabilize conditions. The system is designed to handle up to 1,200 gpm. The objective of the treatment system is to neutralize the mine discharge and remove solids and metals. Although the Gold King Mine discharge is just one of many into Cement Creek, the treatment will remove a portion of the metal loading to Cement Creek.

The EPA continues to evaluate data to determine the impact of the Gold King Mine on water quality.

Additional information about EPA's Gold King Mine response: [www.epa.gov/goldkingmine](http://www.epa.gov/goldkingmine)

R256